

Portsmouth/Kittery Bridges

Results of a Survey taken in
January, 2009

Prepared by:

UNH 2009 MBA CANDIDATES

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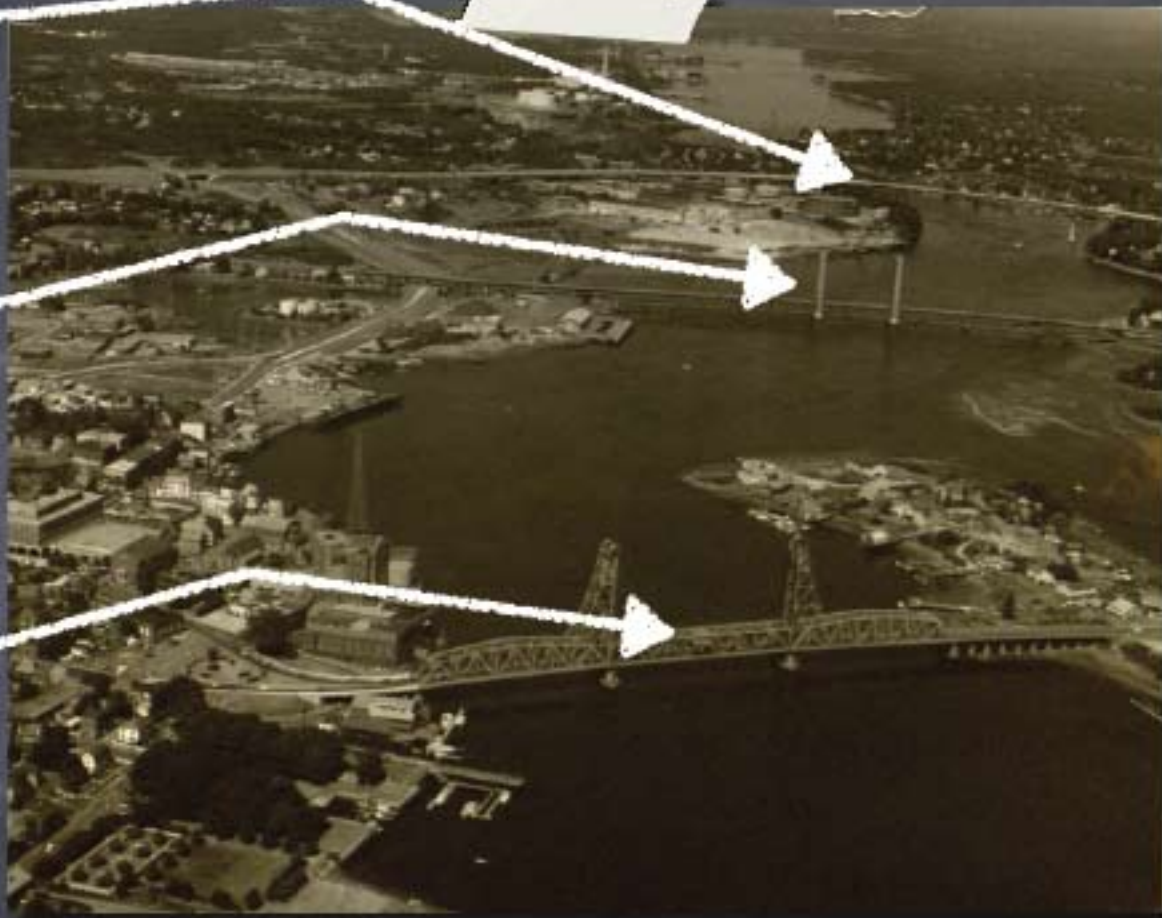


The Three Bridges

I-95

Sarah
Mildred
Long

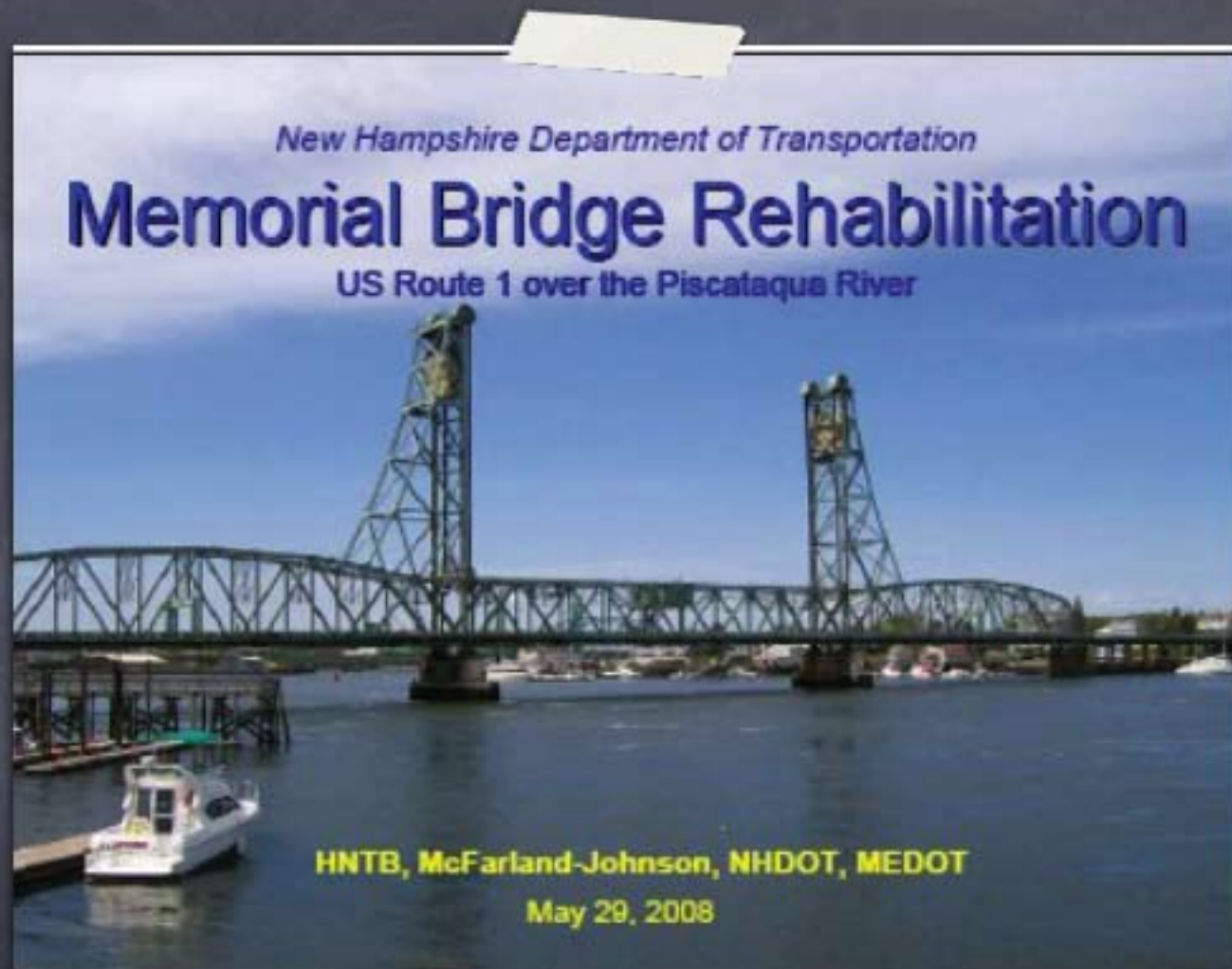
Memorial



The Three Bridges

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The Memorial Bridge

History Memorial Bridge History



- Opened August 17 1923
- Cost: \$2 million
 - Ribbon cut by 5 year old girl: Eileen D Foley - Later Mayor of Portsmouth
- National Historic Register
- Only bridge that allows bicycles and pedestrians
- US-1

Photography by Douglas Voss

History



Before the Memorial Bridge

History

Sarah Mildred Long Bridge



Pictures from The Sarah Mildred Long Bridge by Woodard Openo

History

Sarah Mildred Long Bridge

1924 Railroad Bridge



Pictures from The Sarah Mildred Long Bridge by Woodard Openo

History

Sarah Mildred Long Bridge

1924 Railroad Bridge
1940 10¢ Toll Bridge



Pictures from The Sarah Mildred Long Bridge by Woodard Openo

Sarah Mildred Long Bridge (Bypass Bridge)

- Opened November 8, 1940
- Cost: \$2.9 million
- 10¢ Toll till October 31, 1972
- Only bridge with a rail line (to shipyard)
- Recent Closures
 - 2008 - 1 month
 - 2006 - 2 months

Sarah Mildred Long Bridge

- Due to high marine traffic a movable span was installed to reduce the number of major lifts
- Cost: \$400 thousand
- 70' width
- 8' depth
- 36'-44' clearance



Sarah Mildred Long Bridge

- “...[The] Bridge is a particular hazard because it crosses the channel at a bad angle...It is 200' wide, but at a 30° to 40° angle, you lose 40' to 50'...”, Tugboat Captain Richard Holt



Quotation from The Sarah Mildred Long Bridge by Woodard Openo

History

Sarah Mildred Long Bridge

- Due to narrow span, forward tugboats must detach from ship in order to pass through the Sarah M. Long bridge



Photography by Douglas Voss

The Survey

The Survey

What it is:

- Internet Based Survey
- Initially fielded to less than 20 people in Portsmouth and Kittery
- Transmitted virally via email to more than 500 people
- Limited question set to keep time to a minimum.

The Survey

What is is not:

- Scientific sample
- Inclusive of all groups who use the bridge
 - Trucking interests
 - Maritime interests
 - People passing through
- Exhaustive in terms of options presented
- ... But it is a start...

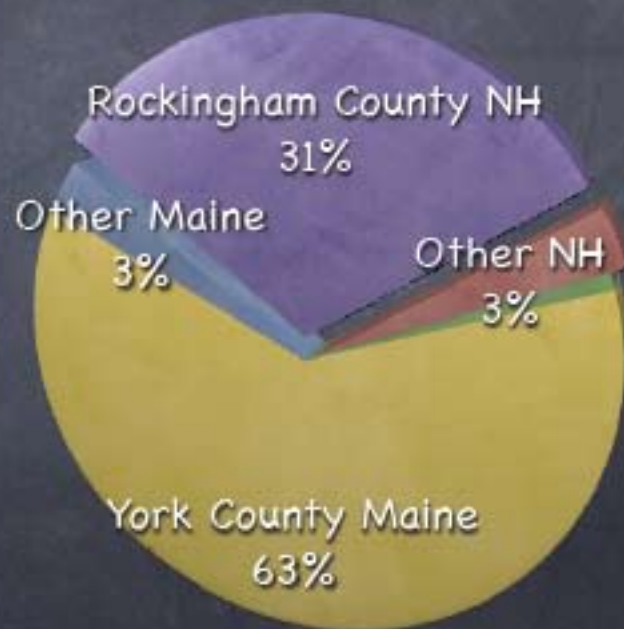
Respondents were mostly working adult women



The Results

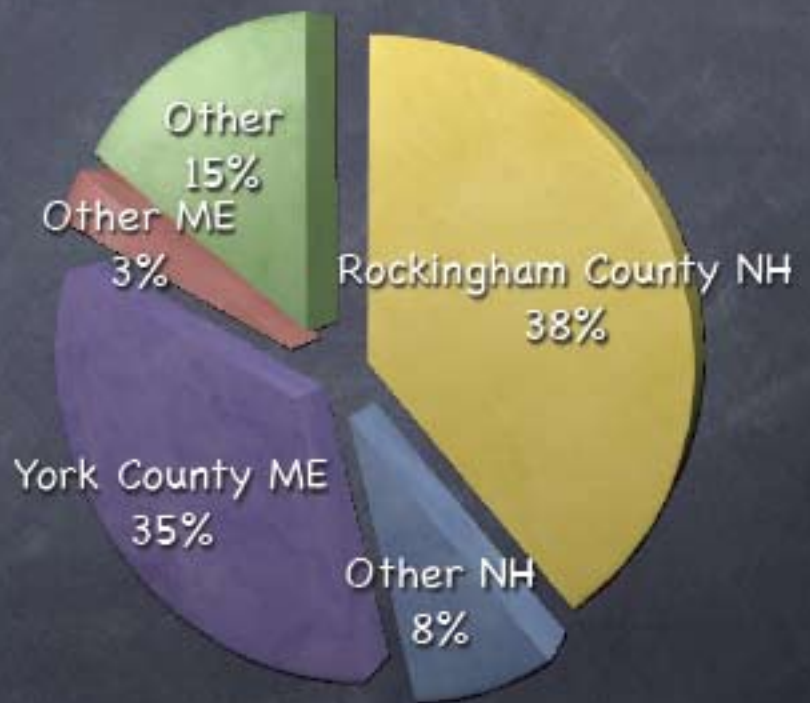
Who Responded to the Survey?

- Respondents are from the local communities
- 2:1 responses from York County



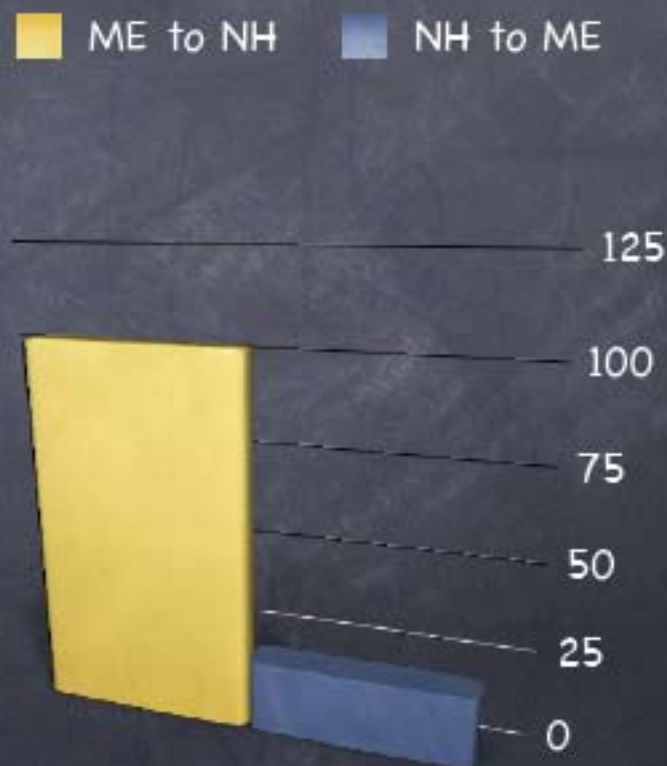
Where do people work?

- Responses were evenly split between NH and ME local communities
- 15% work in other locales



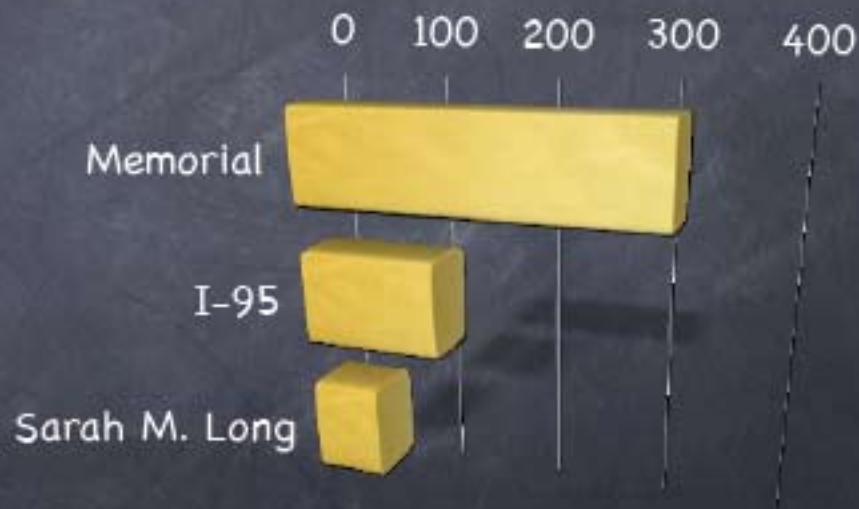
Work Commuting goes to NH

- More people commute from ME to NH for work than from NH to ME.



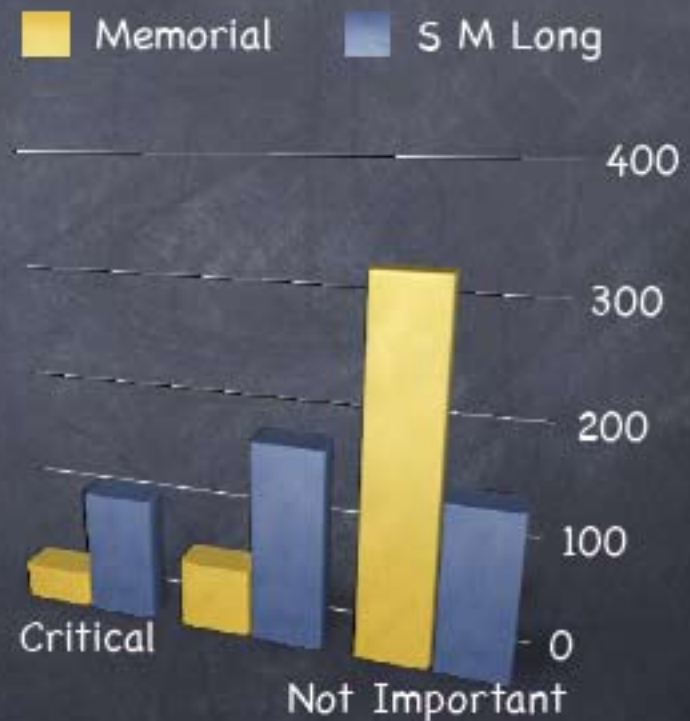
Memorial Bridge used most frequently

- Respondents indicated that they use the Memorial Bridge the most frequently
- We did not ask how much they used the other bridges.



Heavy Trucks not important on Memorial

- Overwhelming majority of respondents think keeping truck traffic on the Memorial Bridge is not important
- Truck traffic is more important for the Sarah Mildred Long bridge



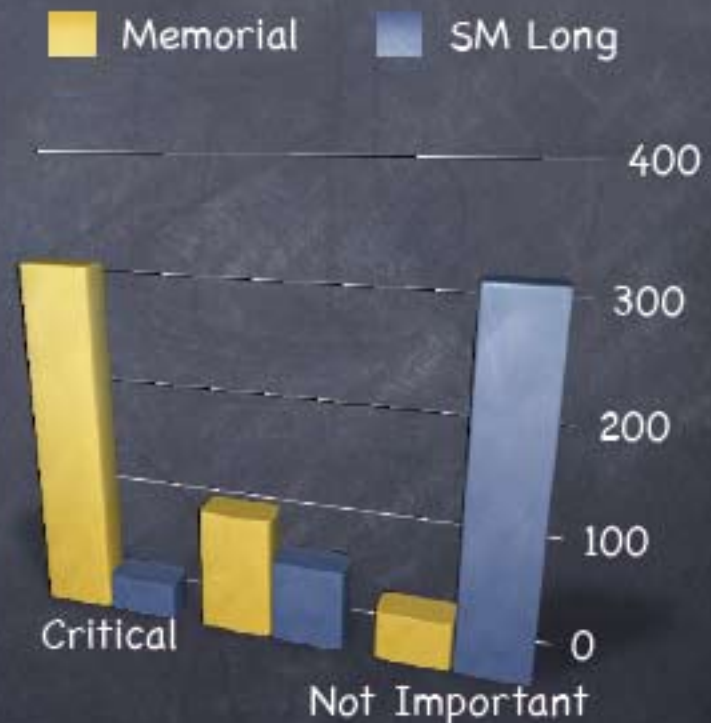
Car traffic is important for the Memorial Bridge

- Respondents say it is critical to maintain auto traffic on the Memorial Bridge route
- Auto traffic is important on the Long Bridge, but attitudes are more mixed



Overwhelming support for Bikes on Memorial Br

- Respondents think keeping bicycle traffic on the Memorial Bridge is critical
- As many think it is not important to have bicycle traffic on the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge



Few believe train traffic critical for the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge

- Almost half the respondents think maintenance of the train route over the Sarah Mildred Long bridge is not important



Memorial Bridge critical for pedestrian traffic

- Over 300 respondents say the Memorial Bridge is critical for pedestrian traffic
- Equal number think it is not important for the SM Long Bridge



Pedestrian usage of the Memorial Bridge is high

- Almost half of the respondents use the Memorial Bridge regularly as pedestrians
- Survey taken during the winter!



Historic Design and Dedication are Important

- ⑤ Respondents want to keep the Memorial Bridge design and its dedication to the WWI Veterans.
- ⑤ High correlation between those favoring design and the memorial aspects



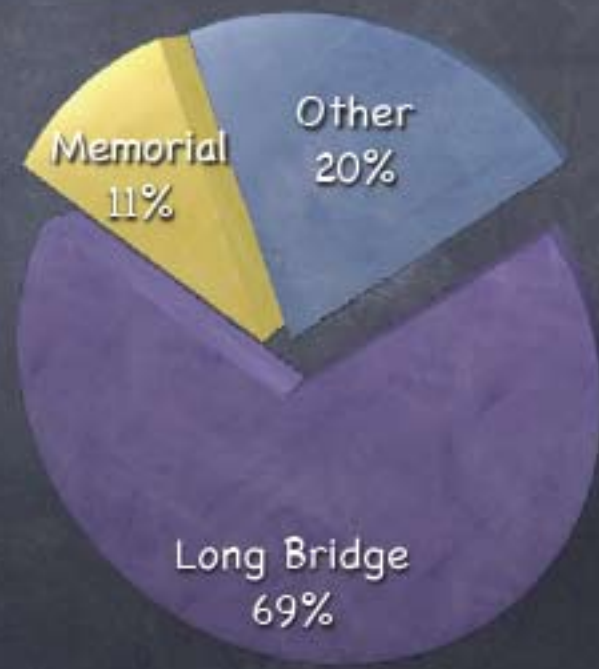
Overwhelming support for Bike and Pedestrian Ways

- Even people who do not use the capability see having pedestrian and bicycle accommodations as desirable



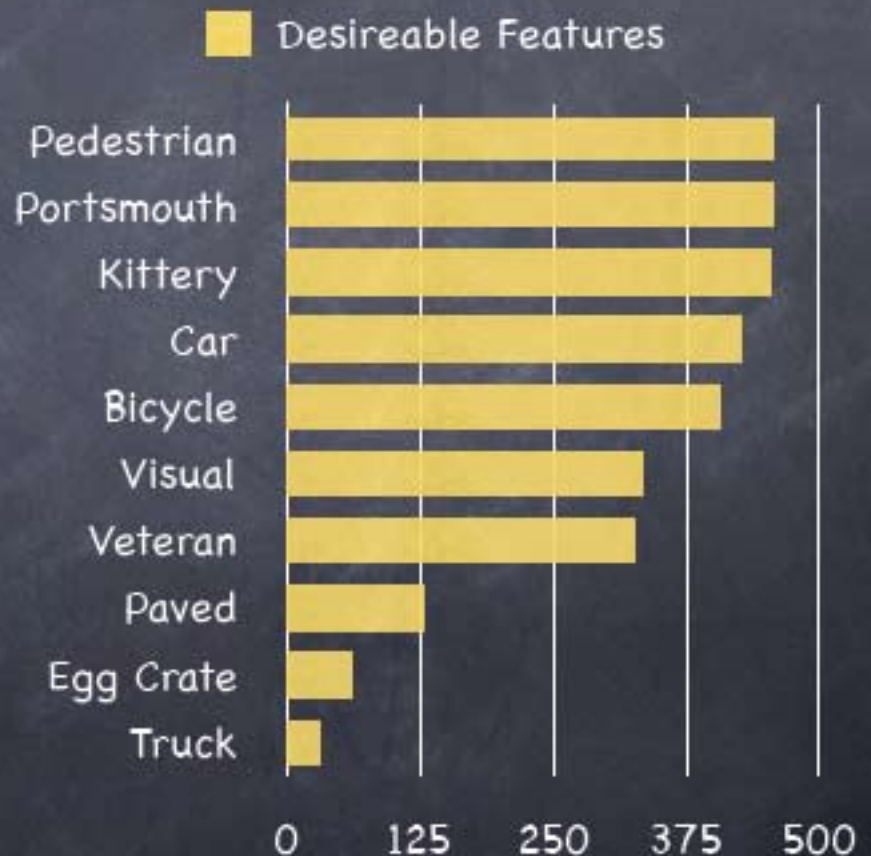
If forced, residents would rather do without the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge

- This is not a desire to remove the bridge, but rather an indication of which residents would be more inclined to do without if there were no other options.



If you could redesign the Memorial Bridge...

- The overwhelming message is the focus on pedestrian and bicycle access to the bridge.
- Veteran and Visual aspects continue to be important.



If you could redesign the Sarah Mildred Long ...

- ⑥ Much more clear distinction in what kind of traffic should be on the middle bridge.
- ⑥ The pedestrian and visual aspects of the bridge are less an issue

